

The Thunderword

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Budget may cut faculty raises

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By JOHN MONTENEGRO AND KELLY WALLACE
Staff Reporters

In response to a disappointing revenue forecast, Governor Gary Locke wants to cut annual cost of living increases for state employees. This could affect Highline faculty.



Keiser
Dr. Laura Saunders, vice president of ad-

ministration, said that Highline has not received instruction from the governor on how to proceed with these restrictions.

Tuesday's revenue forecast predicted that Washington state will lose close to \$300 million more in tax receipts. This brings the total budget shortfall to \$1.5 billion.

To help balance the budget, Gov. Locke wants to overturn an initiative which had support from 63 percent of the public. I-732 gave K-12 school employees and many employees of community and technical colleges annual cost of living adjustments. Although it is something legislators say they don't

want to do, they may have to seriously consider it in order to balance the budget.

"It is something that every senator is thinking about doing," said State Sen. Jeanne Kohl-Welles, D-36th District.

See Faculty, page 16

HIGHLINE COLLEGE LIBRARY PERIODICALS

A heartfelt gift of life

By KELLY WALLACE
Staff Reporter

Darrell Sanson has experienced the worst event a brother can possibly imagine. In September 2000, his sister Jean died of a heart attack.

She collapsed during a swim meet after climbing out of Mount Rainier's pool. She suffered from a heart arrhythmia; paramedics were unable to revive her. Jean had recently gone to a doctor to receive a sports physical but no trouble was detected.

Darrell Sanson, a Highline student, doesn't want to see that to happen to anyone here. Together with other students and his mother, he is working to raise funds to purchase for Highline the kind of equipment that could have saved his sister's life.

Defibrillators are elec-



Sanson is requesting a defibrillator to be on the Highline campus.



Photo by Joe Walker

Darrell Sanson received help from Muna Kulmiye on getting a defibrillator for Highline.

tronic devices, which are used to restore a normal heartbeat by electric shocks. As Sanson explains, it's important to have a defibrillator on the scene.

The defibrillator the campus would get is the Lifepak 500 manufactured by Physio-Control, located in Redmond. It is almost fully automatic and easy to work. The pads are put on the victim to find a pulse and it's extremely accurate. It won't give a shock if unnecessary and the buttons are clear and tells how big of a shock is needed.

The Lifepak 500 costs around \$2,500. Sanson would like every Highline student to contribute.

"Someone's life is worth at least \$3," he said.

Fellow student Muna Kulmiye has helped Sanson get a head start on collecting money. Kulmiye donated around \$50 to Sanson's cause after Sanson gave a speech about it in class.

After Sanson's speech, "Muna had the courage to respond," said Ron Swift, speech instructor.

Kulmiye is "someone in a very difficult situation putting herself out to help someone else," Swift said. A Somali immigrant, she works long hours to send

See Sanson, page 16

Many classes are canceled for spring

By KRISTEN WALLACE AND CARRIE WOOD
Staff Reporters

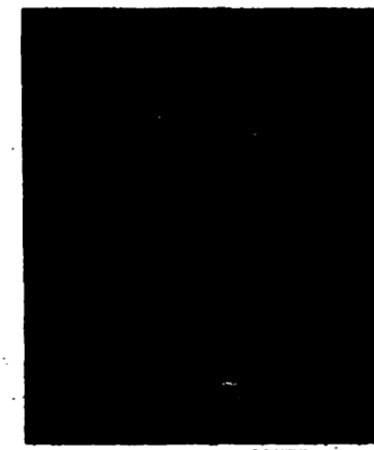
Many Highline students may need to change their spring class schedules due to a rising number of canceled courses.

Laura Saunders, vice president of administration, said many classes are being cut for Spring Quarter because of two separate issues: first, expanded enrollment, and second because Highline did not get the funding college officials had originally thought they would get.

"People need to be retrained due to the recession and we are not funded for that enrollment," said Saunders. "Now it appears that we have a serious problem because we are not getting any more money from the state."

Bottom line: Highline enrolled too many students this quarter. The state pays 75 percent of what it costs to educate a student, which effectively sets a cap on enrollment. Go over that number and the college has to make up the difference.

"The State Board (for Community and Technical Colleges) had asked for 2,100 more FTEs (full time equivalencies) and some portion of that was going to be funded this year. The governor recommended 1,500, all of which would be in the second year. Given the amount stated yesterday about the budget crisis, we may not get any so we



Jeff Wagnitz

will absorb what we have over-enrolled," said Saunders.

Dean of Instruction Jeff Wagnitz said several factors contributed to the over-enrollment problem at Highline.

"One is the baby boomlet. Demographically, colleges are contending with a larger than normal cohort of 18- to 20-year-olds right now, statewide and nationwide," said Wagnitz.

Another factor is Washington's current unemployment rate due to the recession. Statewide, joblessness is 7.5 percent.

"When the unemployment rate climbs, high school graduates will often choose college over an immediate post-graduation job search, realizing that their chances for a good job will be better if they have more education," Wagnitz said.

See Classes, page 16

Index

- Artspages 5-7
- Sports.....pages 8-10
- Campus Life.....pages 2-3
- Crossword.....page 7
- News.....pages 1, 11-16
- Opinion.....page 4

T-bird wrestlers get tough and place sixth at Nationals.

-- See page 8



'Crossroads' is for lovers of Britney and no one else.

-- See page 6